be known only after the prices of concerned formulations have been fixed/revised as per provisions of DPCO, 1987, wherever necessary.

(b) to (d) DPCO, 1987 is based on the measures announced by the Government in December, 1986, details of which are contained in the booklet "Measures for Rationalisation, Quality Control and Growth of Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry in India" copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

Exclusion from price control of Intestopan, etc.

2352. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 237 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th November, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the main criteria for exclusion of drugs from price control as laid down by the Kelkar Committee were:

(i) turn-over of less than rupees fifty lakhs during 1986 and

(ii) that the production structure should be competitive and not in a monopoly position;

(b) if so, how the drugs have been excluded from price control without working out the turn-over of drugs during 1986;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Intestopan, Pancretine, Glipizide, Oxyfedrine Hcl., Isoxsuprine Hcl., Nondrolone Decanoate Nandrolons Phonyl Propionate have been recommended for price decontrol by the Kelkar Committee based on the set criteria;

(d) if so, on what specific criterion each drug was recommended for exclusion from price control; and

(e) what was the sales turnover of each during 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (e) The Kelkar Committee considered the recent WHO list of essential drugs and another 166 drugs listed in Annexure III of the Committee's report for possible inclusion in Category II list and adopted the following criteria for exclusion from Category II List:

(i) Exclude those drugs which are not produced in India, provided that the consumption is not significant either now or in the near future.

(ii) To exclude those drugs the turn over of which has been less than rupees fifty lakhs in 1986.

(iii) To exclude all new drugs for which process of manufacture were developed indigenously from the price control list at least for the First 5 years.

(iv) To exclude those life-saving drugs and pharmaceutical products whose availability is far more important than the price. As the nature of demand is such that it is required less frequently but its non-availability is fatal. The notable examples of such categories are sera and vaccines.

(v) Exclude those pharmaceutical products of drugs where the domestic production structure is so competitive that there is little possibility that the consumers will be over-charged compared to the cost of production.

On the basis of the above criteria the Committee recommended drugs to be included in Category II.

Time Schedule for meter reading by DESU

2353. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that complaints have recently been received from the residents of Vasant Vihar Government Colony, New Delhi alleging wrong/fictitious electricity bills issued by the DESU;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take against the officials responsible therefor;

(c) what steps are being taken to revamp the working of the DESU;

(d) whether any time schedule has been fixed for noting down the meter reading by the DESU:

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(f) whether it is a fact that the meter reading has not been done in the stipulated period in most of the colonies in Delhi during the current year and if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) According to the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking (DESU), no such complaint has been received by them.

(b) Does not arise in view of the answer to part (a) above.

(c) Continuous efforts are being made by DESU to improve its consumer services which include strengthening of the distribution districts, installation of its own computer system with terminals in all district offices to replace manual billing operation etc.

(d) to (f) According to DESU, a monthly meter reading chart is prepared in every distribution district of DESU. Electricity connections having load of 5 KW and above are read every month and the meter reading of the connections having load below 5 KW is done once in two months. Normally meter reading are taken as per schedule. However, in some cases meter readings may not have been taken in the stipulated period due to administrative difficulties, premises being found locked, etc.

Price decontrolled drugs

2354. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 75 per cent of drugs being marketed in the country have been price decontrolled;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in the past prices of price decontrolled medicines went up by 100 per cent to 300 per cent and in some cases even upto 700 per cent;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there was no shortage of drugs which have been price decontrolled; and

(d) if so, what are the names of prices decontrolled drugs which were found in short supply during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Prices of some decontrolled medicines have gone up in the past.

(c) and (d) In general there was no shortage of price decontrolled drugs.

Supreme Court directions on price fixation of drugs

2355. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 126 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th November, 1987 and state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court gave certain directions to Government in their judgements dated the 10th April, 1987 and 1st May, 1987 while dismissing the petitions of the drug companies against price fixation of drugs by this Ministry; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken in the fight of each direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Supreme Court while dismissing the writ petitions filed by various companies in their judgements dated 10-4-1987 and 1-5.1987 directed the Government to dispose of the review applications filed by the various drug companies against the prices fixed by the Government for concerned bulk drugs/formulations by giving a hearing to the